Appendix C

Bureau of Reclamation Responses to Recommendations made by Fish and Wildlife Service in Review of the Status Report and Environmental Analysis

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COORDINATION ACT REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS

Under authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), P.L. 85-624 Section 2, and in accordance with Reclamation Planning Instructions, coordination with the Service was initiated at the inception of this study. The Service submitted a Final FWCA Report in August 1990. The impact analysis and mitigation plan presented in the Status Report and Environmental Analysis was developed in close cooperation with the Service and incorporates the recommendations of the FWCA Report. The FWS made 7 specific recommendations at the conclusion of its FWCA Report. These recommendations are noted below along with Reclamation's response to each recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Additional temperature and flow data collection and analysis be completed to verify temperature modeling efforts with the project, and to be used in the operational plan. This work would be coordinated with fishery agencies.
- 2. An operational plan should be completed to document flows with and without the project, and to clarify hydropower operations and its consistency with other project purposes.
- 3. A detailed monitoring and evaluation plan be developed and implemented to track fishery accomplishments with the project, and serve as the basis to fine-tune project operations to achieve the optimum fishery benefits. Development of the plan should be coordinated with the fishery agencies.

RESPONSE

- 1. Reclamation concurs with this recommendation. County will initiate additional studies in 1990 to evaluate water temperatures.
- 2. Reclamation concurs with this recommendation. County will prepare operational plans. The operational plan would receive input from the Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- 3. Reclamation concurs with this recommendation. County will develop and implement the plan after consultation with the fishery agencies. The plan will be implemented during project construction.

- 4. Implementation of the aquatic habitat improvements be developed in sequence, based on the results of the monitoring and evaluation work; and the need for possible fish passage improvements at the "Cunningham Dam" be evaluated."
- 5. In addition to the tree retention and wetlands development planned with the project, on-site wildlife mitigation measures be implemented, to include; land acquisition (204) acres; vegetation plantings; snag developments; and nest boxes and nest platforms. Additional details, design considerations, locations, etc. should be developed and coordinated with the resource agencies prior to project construction.

6. Off-site wildlife mitigation be implemented for Columbian white-tailed deer by securing 767 acres of suitable habitat within the core area for the deer. Addition securing of white-tailed deer habitat should be pursued as an enhancement opportunity toward delisting of the species.

- 4. Reclamation concurs with this recommendation. A plan will be developed by County to evaluate passage at Cunningham Dam during project construction.
- 5. Reclamation concurs with is recommendation. The upper end of the reservoir could be developed and managed for a variety of wildlife species. All non-compatible uses should be restricted. Land could be acquired through purchase or secured by conservation easements. The interagency HEP team has evaluated a variety of features such as ponds, plantings, in-reservoir cover, etc. Specific plans for the wildlife area would be developed during advanced planning and coordinated with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Roseburg County Water Resources Department.
- 6. Reclamation concurs with this recommendation. Douglas County and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife could coordinate efforts and contact land owners in the core area of Columbian white-tailed deer habitat. Agreements should be made to maintain the necessary habitat components such as understory vegetation.

- 7. Additional enhancement opportunities for fish and wildlife resources be implemented off-site by improving wetlands and/or riparian habitat in the Scotts and Yoncalla Valley areas. Details of this plan should be coordinated with the resource agencies prior to implementation.
- 7. Reclamation concurs in principle with this recommendation. Opportunities of riparian enhancement exist downstream along Elk Creek in Scott's Valley. Two logging ponds in the area have potential for wetland development. Both riparian restoration and wetland development would add to the general wildlife habitat values. A plan will be developed by County during project construction.